

Application No.: 09/706.503
Amendment dated: October 22, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2004
Attorney Docket No.: 0016.5US1

c.) Remarks

Claims 1-57 are pending in this application. Claim 1, 14, and 27 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. New Claims 40-57 been added to alternatively define Applicants' invention.

Grammar was corrected throughout the specification.

Turning now to the merits, Claims 1-2, 5-15, 18-28, and 31-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shannon, US 6, 233,618. Claims 3-4, 16-17, and 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shannon in view of Trcka, *et al.*, US 6,453,345. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Each of the independent claims now requires that the undesirable network traffic comprises a denial of service attack. This is an important notion in the present application.

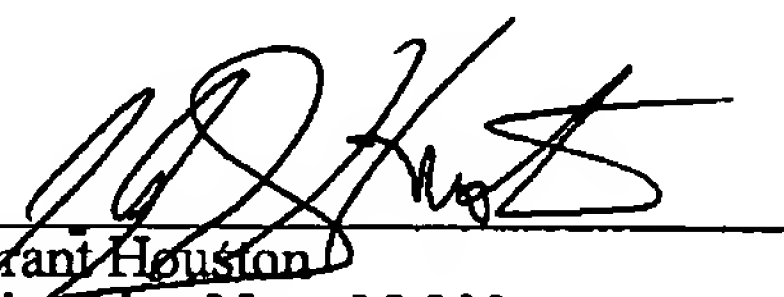
In contradistinction, the primary reference, Shannon, is directed to access control for content filtering. DOS attacks do not appear to be mentioned, or even suggested.

Thus, Applicants believe that the present claims are neither anticipated nor obvious over the applied references.

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Thus, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance.
A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the
Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 21, 2004